

January 11, 2010

Attn:

Subject: JPL Competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) No. MFS-269-112010 for analysis of Mars Landing Sites.

Reference: Enclosures

The Mars Program Office at The Jet Propulsion Laboratory invites your organization to submit proposals for analysis of new candidate landing sites for potential future missions after MSL (MSL is specifically excluded from this call). Potential future missions include, but are not limited to Mars Sample Return and MAX-C (see <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/reports/index.html> for preliminary descriptions). The previous call for new candidate landing sites may provide additional information (see Nov. 2, 2009 call and template at <http://marsoweb.nas.nasa.gov/landingsites/> and <http://webgis.wr.usgs.gov/msl/index.htm>).

Investigations related to mapping the geologic setting, mineralogy, surface characteristics, astrobiological potential, or other mission goals should be described and the potential merits and goals of the investigation should be included. The goal is to gather information and focused analysis on future candidate landing sites and develop a list of high priority candidate landing sites for a range of possible future missions. Proposed landing sites require submission of a written proposal in conformance with the instructions contained in this letter and its enclosures, which comprise the RFP for JPL's acquisition of the subject effort.

The Mars program intends to collect targeted data for the selected proposals from instruments on the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter and Mars Odyssey (if that data does not already exist). Data will be made available to selected proposers as soon as images/data products are available. It is anticipated that a dedicated landing site workshop will be held in 2011 to enable discussion of new candidate sites.

Please note that your proposal is due at JPL no later than March 1, 2010, 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Should you have any questions, please address them to the undersigned by phone or e-mail.

Very truly yours,



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Enclosures: RFP consisting of:

- Cover Sheet and Table of Contents
- General Instructions
- Technical/Management Instructions
- RFP Attachments